

From: Burd, Noreen (ING)
To: 'microsoft.atr(a)usdoj.gov'
Date: 1/5/02 4:25pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

January 7, 2002

Renata Hesse
Trial Attorney
Antitrust Division, Department of Justice
601 D Street NW, Suite 1200
Washington, DC 20530

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VIA EMAIL

Dear Attorney Hesse:

It is my understanding that the Department of Justice is now accepting public comment on the Microsoft settlement. I write in support of the proposal.

As our nation's economy continues to slow, many consumers are out of work and businesses must do more with less. I am concerned that if we continue to pursue the government's case against Microsoft, further tying the hands of technology, we will make it less and less attractive for investment in this industry. We cannot afford to have this happen. We need to encourage investment in order to spur an upturn in the economy.

I believe it is time for the government to stop spending taxpayer's dollars on this case and allow both the judicial system and Microsoft to get back to work on more pressing matters. During this time of recession and national insecurity, the government's efforts could be better spent prosecuting criminals that truly endanger the American people and their economy rather than Microsoft.

I am certain that the regulations put forth in the decision will ease the government's concerns about a Microsoft monopoly and should allow Microsoft's competitors and consumers themselves some additional benefits. However further regulations and/or restrictions may result in inferior, expensive products and complicated internet access.

Continued litigation against Microsoft at this time would be unnecessary and ultimately harmful to the American people.

Sincerely,

Noreen Burd
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